

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A method to determine the presence or absence of polycystic ovary syndrome  
5 (PCOS) in an individual, comprising:
  - a) providing DNA or RNA from the individual; and
  - b) assessing the DNA or RNA for the presence or absence of the PCOS-  
10 associated allele A8(+) of a base pair polymorphism designated herein D19S884; wherein, as a result, the absence of the allele indicates a likely absence of a PCOS causative gene in the genome of the individual and the presence of the allele a likely presence of the PCOS causative gene in the genome of the individual.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the assessing step is performed by a process that  
15 comprises subjecting the DNA or RNA to amplification using oligonucleotide primers flanking at least a portion of D19S884.
3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of treating said individual to prevent or ameliorate PCOS.  
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4. A kit for the detection of the presence or absence of a PCOS-associated allele of D19S884 comprising reagents for detecting said allele and instructions for correlating the presence or absence of said allele to a medical intervention.  
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